

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method of mapping information to a virtual space, the method comprising,  
employing a first plurality of data objects contained within a first data source,  
employing a first spatial paradigm for defining a first plurality of hierarchical  
relationships between said first plurality of data objects, ~~and~~  
defining said virtual space to include a first dimension, a second dimension, and a third  
dimension, said first dimension corresponding to a plurality of planes within said virtual space at  
which one of said data objects can be located and said second and said third dimensions  
corresponding to a position of said one of said data objects within a plane, said planes being  
located along said first dimension according to said hierarchical relationship, and  
virtually locating said first plurality of data objects in a first portion of said virtual space  
~~through which a user can navigate in a substantially unrestricted fashion with a value for said~~  
first dimension of each of said data objects corresponding to its respective hierarchical  
relationship.
2. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising associating a first address with said first  
portion of said virtual display space.
3. (original) The method of claim 2 further comprising displaying a subset of said first plurality  
of said data objects to said user in response to receiving said first address.
4. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein said step of associating further comprises,

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associating a first portion of said first address with a server, and associating a second portion of said first address with said first plurality of hierarchical relationships.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said server is ~~at least one of~~ a virtual server, a physical server, an Internet server, an intranet server ~~and~~ or a remote server.

6. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising enabling a user to view from an adjustable viewing perspective an appearance of a subset of said first plurality of data objects.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said hierarchical relationship is based on abstraction levels 6 ~~further comprising enabling said user to navigate said data objects in a substantially and unrestricted fashion.~~

8. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising,  
    employing a second plurality of data objects contained within a second data source,  
    employing a second spatial paradigm for defining a second plurality of hierarchical relationships between said second plurality of data objects, and  
    virtually locating said second plurality of data objects in a second portion of said virtual space.

9. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising defining a hierarchical relationship in said virtual space between said first plurality of hierarchical relationships and said second plurality of hierarchical relationships.

10. (original) The method of claim 8 further comprising associating a second address with said second position of said virtual space.

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11. (original) The method of claim 10 further comprising enabling a user to display from an adjustable viewing perspective an appearance of a subset of any of said first and said second plurality of data objects.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising leasing portions of said virtual space.

13. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising selling portions of said virtual space.

14. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein said first address is associated with a universal resource locator ("URL").

15. (currently amended) A system for mapping information to a virtual display space, the system comprising,

a computing device adapted to employ a first plurality of data objects contained within a first data source, and a first spatial paradigm for defining a first plurality of hierarchical relationships between said first plurality of data objects, to define said virtual space to include a first dimension, a second dimension, and a third dimension, said first dimension corresponding to a plurality of planes within said virtual space at which one of said data objects can be located and said second and said third dimensions corresponding to a position of said one of said data objects within a plane, said planes being located along said first dimension according to said hierarchical relationship, and to virtually locate said first plurality of data objects in a first portion of said virtual space through which a user can navigate in a substantially unrestricted fashion with a value for said first dimension of each of said data objects corresponding to its respective hierarchical relationship.

16. (original) The system of claim 15 further adapted to associate a first address with said first portion of said virtual display space.

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17. (original) The system of claim 16 further adapted to displaying a subset of said first plurality of said data objects to said user in response to receiving said first address.

18. (original) The system of claim 16 further adapted to associate a first portion of said first address with a server, and to associate a second portion of said first address with said first plurality of hierarchical relationships.

19. (original) The system of claim 18 wherein said server is at least one of a virtual server, a physical server, an Internet server, an intranet server and a remote server.

20. (original) The system of claim 15 further adapted to enable a user to view from an adjustable viewing perspective an appearance of a subset of said first plurality of data objects.

Claims 21- 29 (canceled)

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